

OCT 18 2006

PATENT

REMARKS:

Claims 1, 4, 8-10, 12 and 14-20 were pending and considered. All claims stand rejected. In response, claims 1, 12 and 19 have been amended. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1, 4, 8-10, 12 and 14-20 remain pending. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

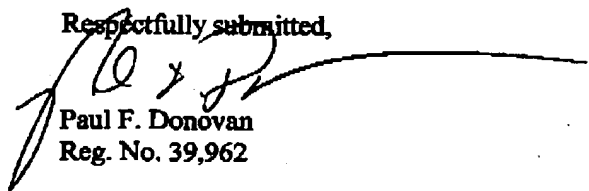
Claims 1, 4, 8, 9, 12 and 18-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over DE 297 022 78 (Chang et al.) in view of EP 982 454 (Pryce-Hall) and further in view of US 3,854,784 (Hunt et al.). Claims 10 and 14-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Chang et al. in view of Pryce-Hall and Hunt et al., and further in view of JP 11270212 (Sasaki). These rejections are traversed for at least the following reasons.

Without agreeing with the Examiner as to what is or is not taught by the cited references, claims 1, 12 and 19 have been amended to more clearly define the claimed invention. More specifically, claims 1, 12 and 19 have been amended to recite that the follower is configured to be freely movable in an unbiased state within a slot in the drawer from one end of the slot to an opposite end of the slot. The Examiner opines that the follower of Pryce-Hall is freely movable along a slot (3). Although it is respectfully argued that the biased detent pin (2) of Pryce-Hall is not freely movable as intended by the claim language, the claims have been amended to more clearly recite that freely movable means unbiased. Hunt et al. also fails to provide this missing link. For at least these reasons, claims 1, 12 and 19 are patentable over the proposed combinations. The remaining claims depend from one of claims 1, 12 and 19, and, therefore, are allowable for at least the same reasons applied thereto, as well as for the additional subject matter recited in each.

No new matter has been added by way of the amendments and remarks made herein. Reconsideration and allowance of all the remaining pending claims are respectfully requested. In the event that there are any issues that can be expeditiously handled by telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

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Respectfully submitted,


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